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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Observations at the Former Lavrovski Monastery in Kiev

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1. The former Lavrovski Monastery was in Kiev ( $50^{\circ}23'N/30^{\circ}30'E$ ), west of the Dnopr River. One building in the cloister was still occupied by monks, but one of the old cloister buildings was being reconditioned. 25X1  
[REDACTED] this building was completed in October 1943. Its equipment with unidentified machinery was completed in early 1949, and since about the same time the machinery installed there had been in use. Next to this reconditioned building construction work was begun on two new buildings in 1949, but these buildings were not yet completed in November 1949.
2. The reconditioned building was a two-story brick structure, measuring 35 x 3 meters, covered with a gable roof made of sheet metal. Two large rooms of equal size were installed in the basement and on the two floors. The ceilings were supported by two reinforced concrete pillars and reinforced by T-girders. The installation of foundations for machinery was not noted. 25X1  
[REDACTED] the workers who left this reconditioned building were always covered with black dust, possibly graphite dust.
3. The labor detail employed at the cloister went by the name "building site Lavra 33". 25X1  
[REDACTED] work was done day and night in the reconditioned building after early 1949. The work force was composed mostly of young men from 18 to 20 years old. \*

\* [REDACTED] Comment. The data on the location and layout of this test station agree with an earlier report. 25X1  
[REDACTED] From the two reports, it is inferred that the installation may be a physical research laboratory for the testing of metals and artificial materials. The statement that the workers leaving the reconditioned building were covered with black dust may be explained by their being assigned to hardening or sintering work. Atomic or bacteriological research is not considered possible in the building.

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